

# Formulating Recommendations...Discussion of Recommendations

1. The UFTF recommends making an amendment to the criteria used in the policy for funding the Undergrounding of Overhead Utility Lines. The amendment would add language to consider the proposed impact of overhead utility lines on city terrace trees. The criteria should include but may not be limited to: ability to underground, terrace width, availability of space for private trees adjacent to the right-of-way, ability to improve canopy coverage, availability of cost-share funding source (e.g., TIF), potential for place-making, etc.
2. The UFTF recommends appropriating consistent annual funds for full or partial underground projects.
3. The UFTF supports adding the following to MGO: “In new developments, terraces should have a minimum width of 8’, with 10’ being optimal, and the terrace should have 10’, 12’ minimums for arterial and collectors, whenever possible.”
4. The UFTF recommends that developers include a tree preservation and replacement plan – which identifies public and private trees potentially impacted by staging, construction process, etc. – with the submission of their development plan.

**When private redevelopment is proposed, the UFTF recommends that staff require a public tree management plan, which identifies city terrace trees potentially impacted by staging, construction process, etc. and outlines whether they will be removed, replaced, maintained, protected, etc. If terrace trees are removed, developers shall be responsible for providing soil volume at their cost to regrow that tree in a more optimal environment.**

**The Urban Forestry Task Force recommends that Housing or Zoning investigate how new development single-family lots can have at least a minimum of one tree planted per lot.**

**The UFTF recommends that early neighborhood development plans include an inventory of canopy coverage, identify key areas for conservation, and record justification.**

**The UFTF recommends that a study be conducted to assess canopy coverage in the city and then use that information to develop a target goal (either by a compounding interest model or a minimum standard model). This goal should be neighborhood-based and encourage growth of canopy coverage.**

## **Private trees and ash trees**

**The UFTF recommends that the list of allowable trees be removed from the ordinances for the Design Districts.**

**The UFTF recommends that the Tree Technical Manual should include a detailed guide as to the currently used and recommended spacing requirements. The rationale for spacing standards and opportunities for reduction in spacing should be documented.**

**HOLD: Redevelopment general discussion**

The UFTF recommends requiring zones free of laterals (e.g., water, sanitary) and parallel utilities for redevelopments at the beginning of the process. The site plans should also consider to the center of the road for the purpose of planting trees with adequate soil volume areas.

The UFTF recommends that Forestry obtain the appropriate software licenses and permissions to coordinate more extensively with other agencies involved in Public Works projects.

The UFTF recommends that the new constructions should require 800 cubic feet soil volume for terrace trees. For downtown areas and reconstruction projects, 800 cubic feet soil volume should be implemented whenever possible.

The UFTF recommends that soil volume be included in the parking and general landscaping zoning specifications for private development.

The UFTF recommends that developing an Urban Forest Initiative that would provide consumer education and conduct outreach events, similar to the Clean Water Alliance.

The UFTF recommends that the City work to develop a forestry advisory board, in order to partner with the Arboretum, Extension, Urban Tree Alliance, and others to develop the brand of the urban forest.

The UFTF recommends a grant program that includes a tree giveaway with an emphasis on private trees.

The UFTF recommends creating a program similar to Tree Tender, Tree Keeper, or Adopt-a-Highway.

The UFTF recommends an annual or bi-annual urban forest report and this would be put in place of a Forestry Master Plan and would accomplish the same goals as a Forestry Master Plan (e.g., assessing the current state of the urban forest, reviewing the UFTF recommendations, and evaluating the success of those goals). The report would be shared with the proposed forestry advisory board

## **Tree Technical Guide**

### **Inventory**

The UFTF recommends that if, during the course of a development project, a terrace tree is removed, then the developer will be responsible for paying [\$x].

The UFTF recommends that, if a tree is removed and is scheduled to be replaced, the replacement would take priority over solar panel installations.

The UFTF recommends investigating how to reduce the district and young tree pruning cycles.

The UFTF recommends that a discussion be had regarding a Tree Preservation Ordinance.